

## Thistles.

The most notorious girl of the party is Esme Beadle.

Not last, said the man who bet on the wrong horse, but gone behind.

Dr. Holmes says that crying will do more harm than good. There is nothing like wet weather for transplanting.

A North Carolina editor declares that the man who will read a newspaper three or four years without paying for it will pasture a goat on the grave of his grandfather.

The chief of the Chinese embassy, who asked how all the Chinese in America would get back to China, replied: They will all go to Ireland; that is the only country the Irish do not rule.

What is wisdom? asked a teacher of a small class of girls. A bright little creature arose and answered: Information of the brain.

The gang of burglars who work for seven straight hours to hammer a safe to pieces to secure fourteen cents, know how a country minister feels next day after a donation visit.

A tramp with a wooden leg justified his mode of life the other day to his wife, who was touching up her complexion before the mirror. Only getting up my patient outside, was the reply.

An old granger who came into town to purchase a piano for his daughter, asked the agent if he hadn't one with a handle on the end, so we can all give it a tune once in a while.

Six days of the week he's invisible, and on the seventh he's incomprehensible, was the account which a distressed old lady gave of her pastor and his ministrations.

It was a musician who was fishing and hoped he would get a bass soon—[Boston Commercial Bulletin]. He had his bait on, but he found himself a pretty hot-temper before he got his bass clarinet.—[New York Commercial Advertiser]. It was an india-rubber dealer that guitar pencils the same day.—[Boston Commercial Bulletin].

Did you ever notice the startling and total silence that will fall upon a frog pond in full chorus in the Spring, when the small boy splashes a stone among the swimming reptiles? We are strongly reminded of this by the effect produced upon the Democratic chorus of triumph by the rock heaved among them by the Tribune.

At a railroad station, lately, an elderly Irish woman, who had arrived a few seconds after the train had started, set off to run after it. She of course soon came to a halt, when she began to abuse the unaccommodating engine, adding, with a note of rage: Faugh! the great black ugly lump! When she gets as bold as me, bedad, she won't run so quick!

Do you know when the Swallows Homeward Fly? asked a young man of his inamorata, as he leaned over the piano forte. Of course I do, she replied, and now affords an attractive temperature home.—The lodges anticipate with much pleasure the privilege of entertaining its friends from all parts of the county at the coming meeting of the County Union.

The meeting of the County Union, to be held Nov. 12th and 13th with Pownal lodge, is expected to prove one of peculiar interest, as a larger attendance than on any previous occasion is expected, and the programme includes eminently practical topics. A revival of Good Templarism is apparent all over the county, and every member of the order can increase its efficiency by attending the meeting even if it costs a sacrifice.

Note the practical programme for the coming County Union.

Fanaticism has been the cry of cowards and hypocrites always. Ever since Noah built his ark, ever since the angels left Sodom to its fate, there has never been a philosopher, discoverer, or reformer who has not, sometime in his life, been called a fanatic. It was a fanatic who discovered America; a fanatic invented the steamboat. We say now that fanaticism crucified our Savior, but when he hung upon the tree, He was the despised of all nations.

So far as the temperance question is concerned we are engaged largely in a voyage of discovery, and if we find facts that upset hitherto cherished theories of duty and obligation, let the latter be sacrificed, even if violence be done to our conservation.

Experience has taught us the rocks upon which effort breaks. Wisdom now requires us to be prudent of our resources, choice of our methods, jealous of our patronage, severe with our faults, uncompromising in our measures, undaunted in our courage, true to the cause, and eternal in our hatred to alcohol, its servants and sympathizers.

Our enemies are numerous. They are always the bad; sometimes even the good. Our conduct as members and our actions as judges must not be such as to excite the contempt and ridicule of the one nor the distrust of the other. Our duties under the prohibitory law are unmistakable. Every foot strong enough should use it to effect, while others too weak must strengthen public sentiment to this end. Prohibitory laws are the heavy artillery of temperance and the strong hold of the rum power cannot be broken down without them.

At a recent trial of a liquor case the witness on the stand was under examination as to what he had seen in the defendant's domicile, which he said he had visited a number of times.

Did you ever see any spirits there, or anything you regarded as spirits? asked the presiding justice.

Why, yes—I don't know but I have, was the reply of the witness.

Do you know what kind of spirit?

You know how to do you know?

I kinder smell it.

Well, now, said the judge, straightening himself for the convicting answer, which he supposed would be given, will you please tell me what kind of spirit it was?

Spirits? surpising!

As soon as the roar of laughter that resulted had subsided, the witness was at once discharged, the opinion being that his testimony was not to the point.

## Temperance Column.

**L. O. OF G. T.**  
This column is published at the expense of the Independent Order of Good Templars, and is edited under the direction of the Massachusetts Council Union. We do not accept contributions from lodges. They must be received by the editor at North Pownal on Saturday, the 15th instant. Every member deserves the right to condone any item sent.

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